



HOLY FAMILY PARISH, MT DRUITT

Under the care of the Australian Jesuit Province

252 -254 Luxford Road, Emerton NSW 2770

PARISH VISION: *Holy Family Mt Druitt is a welcoming community: on a journey towards a personal encounter with Jesus; called to unity and celebrating our diversity; living and sharing the joy of the Gospel.*

We acknowledge the Darug people, the traditional custodians on whose land this Church was built.



2025 / Issue No. 50 / 28th December, 2025

Reflection from Fr Renato for the

Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

This is the name of our Church, the name of our community that we celebrate on this Feast of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, celebrated on the Sunday after Christmas. It seeks to portray the Holy Family of Nazareth as the "true model of life," from which our families and our community can draw inspiration and know where to find help and comfort. Holy Family Emerton is proudly one of the most culturally diverse and vibrant Catholic communities within the Diocese of Parramatta, located in the heart of Sydney and Mt Druitt.

Our parish vision is that Holy Family Emerton is a welcoming community, on a journey toward personal encounter with Jesus, called to unity and sharing the joy of the Gospel. What does today's Gospel say to us about the Holy Family that had to flee their home and country to live and survive as refugees in Egypt? The experience of the family of Nazareth cannot but make us think of the many families today who are also "in movement"—certainly those families forced to leave their homes and their own land in search of peace, serenity, and work, but also those families who live with the apprehension and anxiety of not making ends meet, of unstable marital situations, and the fear of illness.

In the family of Nazareth, our families, as well as the human family, can learn to allow ourselves to be guided by God's powerful hand. If it is true, on the one hand, that in many situations people feel like "refugees," "strangers in their own homes," or even in the heart of a loved one, it is also true that every obstacle and every difficulty can be transformed into an opportunity to "depart," an opportunity for a "journey toward conversion," which alone can lead to serenity, peace, and stability. As a welcoming community at Emerton, one with our First Nations people, we are family for one another, guided by God's powerful hand through his Son, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit, in communion with Mary and Joseph—on a journey where we respect and honour all who come to be part of the community, unified in the Word of God, serving with love and joy.

Living the Gospel of the family is what we bring to our Church community. It is not easy. Yet in the Gospel, we find the way to live a beautiful life on the personal and familial level—a way that is certainly challenging, but attractive and all-embracing. It is a way that still deserves to be trusted and undertaken, after the example and through the intercession of the Holy Family of Nazareth itself. The social family virtues of our Holy Family Church—harmony, respect, compassion, service, justice, peace, forgiveness, reconciliation, and mercy—are lived here. Yes, Emerton Holy Family stands as one with all in our country and world, brothers and sisters rooted in the life of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph.

To all, a Happy Feast.
Amen.



Why would the Holy Family feel right at home in our parish?

Because Mary would be organising, Jesus welcoming everyone, and Joseph fixing whatever needed repairing before Sunday Mass!

If Jesus grew up in our parish today:

Mary would be calming a toddler, Joseph would be chasing one down the aisle, and Jesus would be smiling — because families belong here.

Even Mary and Joseph had to cope with a teen Jesus — wandering off, asking tricky questions, growing into his own person.

A little worry, patience, and trust in God goes a long way — something all parents at Holy Family Parish know well!

Parish Office:

Located in the Holy Family Centre
(via 11 Emert Pde, Emerton NSW 2770)
Postal Address:
PO Box 86, Mt Druitt NSW 2770
Ph: (02) 9628 7272 OR 0497 966 277

Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday: 9.00am - 4.30pm
Friday: 9.00am - 3.30pm

Find us on 

Holy Family Parish, Mt Druitt
<https://fb.me/HFPMtDruitt>

Or visit our website:

www.holyfamily.org.au

PARISH TEAM

Parish Priest: Fr Nguyen Van Cao SJ

cao@holyfamily.org.au

Assistant Priest: Fr Renato Zecchin SJ

renato@holyfamily.org.au

Pastoral Associate: Sr Carlene Allen

carlene@holyfamily.org.au

Site Manager: Ray Donaldson

ray@holyfamily.org.au

Parish Secretary: Malia Lolesio

enquiry@holyfamily.org.au

Book-Keeper: Malinda Toms

accounts@holyfamily.org.au

Music Director: Etuate 'Eddie' Paunga

kosilio_lole@hotmail.com

Parish Pastoral Council

Chairperson & Children's Liturgy

Coordinator: Marissa Logronio

logroniom23@gmail.com

Sacramental Coordinator:

Lorraine Gordon

SRE Co-ordinators:

Maureen Freeburn & Lorraine Gordon

Finance Committee Chairperson:

Kevin Johnson

Holy Family Young Adult Leaders:

Monica Vave, Fololina Mafi, Burt Tukala

hfytmtdruitt@gmail.com

Mass Times at Holy Family, Emerton

WEEKDAY:

Monday - Saturday: 9.00am

WEEKEND:

Saturday Vigil: 5.30pm

Sunday: 9.00am & 10.30am

NO MASSES AT WILLMOT UNTIL SUNDAY 18th JANUARY 2026

Mass and Anointing

2nd Saturday of every month:
9.00am

Holy Hour - Emerton

Saturdays from 9.30am

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturdays: 9.30am - 10.00am OR
by appointment.

SCRIPTURE READINGS - YEAR A

Feast of the Holy Family

LET US HEAR AND RECEIVE THE WORD OF GOD

**Collect:**

O God, who were pleased to give us the shining example of the Holy Family, graciously grant that we may imitate them in practicing the virtues of family life and in the bonds of charity, and so, in the joy of your house, delight one day in eternal rewards. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever Amen.

First Reading: Sirach 3: 2-6, 12-14

The Lord honours a father above his children, and he confirms a mother's rights over her sons. Whoever honours their father atones for sins and gains preservation from them; when they pray, they will be heard. Whoever respects their mother is like one who lays up treasure. The person who honours their father will have joy in their own children, and when they pray they will be heard. Whoever respects their father will have a long life, and whoever honours their mother obeys the Lord. My child, help your father in his old age, and do not grieve him as long as he lives. Even if his mind fails, be patient with him; because you have all your faculties, do not despise him all the days of his life. For kindness to your father will not be forgotten, and will be credited to you against your sins— a house raised in justice for you.

Responsorial Psalm - Ps 127 (128): 1-5

R. Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways.

Blessed is everyone who fears the Lord,
who walks in his ways.
You shall eat the fruit of the labour of your hands;
you shall be happy, and it shall go well with you. R.

Your wife will be like a fruitful vine
within your house;
your children will be like olive shoots
around your table. R.

Thus shall the man be blessed who fears the Lord.
The Lord bless you from Zion.
May you see the prosperity of Jerusalem
all the days of your life. R.

WE ASK FOR YOUR PRAYERS**BAPTISMS:**

LIST OF THE SICK: Richard Ward, Marie Purcell, Soane Quensell, Pam Picart-Manalac, Katea Vave, Kim Ahmad, Vivian Masters, Makasini Vave, Fifita Sitani, Loretta Josephine Seupule, Leue Dunlop, Lino Dunlop, Cheryl Barrell, Lisimoa Hufanga, Jenny Gillman, Chris Wilson, Norah Gibson, Sabrina Ellingsworth, Jean Mari Frederic, Brian Russel, Toss Van den Berg, Pat Phelan, John Murray, Lemisio Fa'ulua, Lourdes Bustamante, Pippa O'Neal, Mathew Sieders, Jose Manalo, Fely Dela Paz Manalo, Maria Barbara, Sylvia Greene, Mayda Attachian, Faye Iffland, Tim Meagher, Emma Lawrence, Maria Llave, Maria Belisario, Fara Vargas, Fe Llave, Stella Edwards, Boyet Llave.

RECENT ANNIVERSARIES: Kerrie Donaldson

RECENTLY DECEASED: Paul Peel

Second Reading: Colossians 3: 12-21

Brothers and sisters: As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing Psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. * Wives, be subject to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives and never treat them harshly. Children, obey your parents in everything, for this is your acceptable duty in the Lord. Fathers, do not provoke your children, or they may lose heart.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

*May the peace of Christ rule in your hearts,
and the fullness of his message live within you.*
Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 2: 13-15, 19-23

After the wise men had left, an Angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the Prophet, "Out of Egypt I have called my son." When Herod died, an Angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child's life are dead." Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the Prophets might be fulfilled, "He will be called a Nazorean."

Prayer After Communion:

Bring those you refresh with this heavenly Sacrament, most merciful Father, to imitate constantly the example of the Holy Family, so that, after the trials of this world, we may share their company for ever. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR DECEMBER 2025**

For Christians in areas of conflict.

Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation and hope.
Amen.

Readings for Sunday 4th January 2026: Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord

\\ 1st Reading: Isaiah 60: 1-6 // \\ 2nd Reading: Ephesians 3: 2-3, 5-6 // \\ Gospel: Matthew 2: 1-12 //

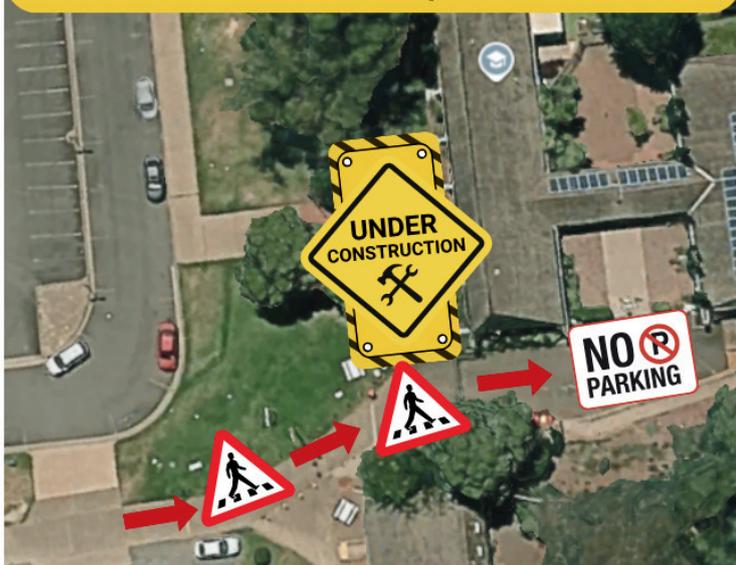


Parish Collection for the weekend of the 20th/ 21st December 2025:

1st Collection (for the priests of the diocese)	\$ 829.50
2nd Collection (for parish expenses)	\$ 1,740.00
Candles	\$ 293.65

DIRECT PARISH DONATIONSOnline contributions for the **Priests of the Diocese** (1st collection)**Acc Name: Parramatta Diocesan Clergy****BSB: 067 950 Acc No: 004265****Make sure to Reference: 6024 and Your Name**Online contributions for **Parish Expenses** (2nd collection)**Acc Name: Mount Druitt Catholic Church****BSB: 067 950 Acc No: 0000 0446****Reference: Your 'Planned Giving Number' OR Your Full Name OR****For over the counter deposits:****Acc Name: Diocesan Development Fund Mt Druitt Catholic Church****BSB: 062 315 Acc No: 0090 1486 Agent No: 935****Reference: Your Name + Appeal**

If you would like a tax deductible receipt for your Planned Giving envelopes OR specific donation, please contact the parish office.

**Notice of Works - Church Access
From 6th January 2026****Notice of Works on Front Pavement
- Church Access**

Please be advised that concrete works on the front pavement will commence on Tuesday, 6 January 2026, and are expected to take approximately 10 days to complete.

During this time:

- The front stairs and ramp will be closed
- Disabled parking will be unavailable due to safety requirements
- Access to the church will be via the driveway to the disabled parking area only

We ask for your patience and cooperation while these essential works are carried out.

Thank you for your understanding.

WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK:**Sunday December 21**

- HF Tongan Catholic Communion, 12pm-3pm (MMR)
- Samoan Divine Mercy, 3.30pm-6.30pm (MMR)

Monday December 22

- AA mtg, 7pm (MMR)

Tuesday December 23

- Staff Meeting, 3pm-5pm (SICR)
- NA mtg, 6.30pm-8pm (MMR)

Wednesday December 24

- Christmas Eve Masses (see times below)

Thursday December 25

- Christmas Day Mass, 9am (Church)
- Combined Christian Churches - Christmas Day Lunch, doors open 11am (Primary School Hall)

Friday December 26**Saturday December 27**

- AA mtg, 7pm (MMR)

Meeting Rooms:**SSR** - Schoenstatt Sisters Room;**SICR** - St Ignatius Conference Room;**MMR** - Mary Mackillop Meeting Room,**HFC** - Holy Family Centre**HOLY FAMILY PARISH - ON-SITE SERVICES****Christmas & Summer Closure Dates 2025-2026****Holy Family Primary School:**

18/12/2025 - 27/01/2026

Life Start: 19/12/2025 - 05/01/2026**Holy Family Pre-School:** 19/12/2025 - 27/01/2026**Baabayn Aboriginal Corporation:**

19/12/2025 - 16/01/2026

📌 Programs recommence February 2026

Willmot Community Hub & JSS:

19/12/2025 - 05/01/2026

Ignite Food Store: 19/12/2025 - 12/01/2026**St Vincent de Paul Hub(Vinnies):**

10/12/2025 - 21/01/2026

Aboriginal Catholic Services:

18/12/2025 - 05/01/2026

• OzHarvest Hampers resume: 8 January 2026

The Shed

📅 Closed on public holidays. Will remain open.

Holy Family Parish Office

📅 24 December 2025 - 6 January 2026

For urgent matters, please contact:

☎ (02) 9628 7272

LITURGICAL 3rd / 4th JANUARY 2026**5.30pm
Vigil Mass**

Minister at the Altar: J. Gillman / P. Morrell

Minister of the Word: G. Bruton / F. Hinder

Eucharistic Minister: L. Macayan

AV Operator: P. Gillman

**9am
Sunday
Mass**

Minister at the Altar: S. Watt

Minister of the Word: L. Seiders / L. Gordon

Eucharistic Minister: C. Payne

AV Operator: M. Abad

**10.30am
Sunday Mass**

Minister at the Altar: J. Petelo / L. Tuuhetoka

Minister of the Word: - / M. Ortiz

Eucharistic Minister: -

AV Operator: P. Setefano

If you would like to be a part of the roster, please see Sr Carlene OR contact the Parish Office.

SUMMER FAMILY HOLIDAY PROGRAM 2026

Holy Family Parish, Mt Druitt is pleased to offer a Summer Family Holiday Program for local families, providing affordable and inclusive activities that encourage connection, wellbeing and community participation.

ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:

 **Bluey's Big Play – Live theatre at Sydney Coliseum, West HQ Rooty Hill (Sat 10 Jan, 12.30pm show)**
\$10.00pp (Free for children aged 0-2)

 **Clontarf Beach Day – Bus outing (Wed 14 Jan)**
\$5.00pp (Free for children aged 0-2)

 **Austinmer Beach Day – Bus outing (Fri 23 Jan)**
\$5.00pp (Free for children aged 0-2)

**Tickets on sale from Tuesday 6th January, 2026
from the Parish Office only!
(Cash payments only)**

Terms & Conditions

- Tickets must be purchased in person; no phone bookings
- No reservations, cancellations or refunds
- Tickets are transferable (office must be notified at least 1 day prior)
- Parents/carers are responsible for the supervision of their children at all times
- Participants must remain within the planned activity area and must not leave the group
- Eligibility criteria apply and will be checked at booking
- Limited places available; maximum 10 tickets per person unless from one immediate family

Program by Holy Family Parish, Mt Druitt.
Funded by the Dept of Communities and Justice.
Supported by Cumberland Coachlines.

SERVE THE LORD IN HIS WORD AND SACRAMENT

The next **Liturgical Ministry Training Course** will be held in Blacktown and Penrith in 2026. **Enrolments close Friday, 23rd January 2026** (or earlier if full).

Enrolment forms are available at the back of the church. Please return the signed form as soon as possible to secure your place.

**THIS CHRISTMAS,
SHARE MOMENTS
OF TRUE JOY WITH
YOUR FAMILY.**



START WATCHING



shalomworld.org/christmas

No pay walls. No ads. Just Christmas with Jesus

Bishop Vincent's Christmas Message 2025

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,
Peace be with you this Christmas 2025!

Christmas is about birth, new beginnings and regeneration and the wonder of newborn life. Mary, the Mother of God, yet also a young pregnant woman, was probably afraid, suffering, in a strange place. The no-doubt-anxious Joseph, hovering around, maybe running off to get clean cloths as the birth approached. The baby boy, born in blood and tears and happiness as all babies are, time without end.

And then the explosion of joy at this beginning - angels in the sky, a beacon star, kneeling shepherds and later, grave Magi bringing royal gifts.

Christmas is all this – the joy, the pain, the fear, the expectation, the utter humanity of birth – the everyday miracle and an even greater miracle. God has become one of us and now dwells amongst us forever!

However, Christmas does not just console us with the proclamation of the Emmanuel -God-dwelling-among-us. It also challenges us to act to transform our world. God comes among us not in a parade of power and glory. Rather he chooses to immerse himself fully with our human condition, embracing the trials and tribulations of life. Therefore, reclaiming the Christmas spirit means none other than to imitate God's radical solidarity even at the risk of jeopardising our own status and privilege.

Let's never forget that our God, the maker of all things visible and invisible, was reduced to the most vulnerable of creatures; another little Middle Eastern boy caught up in homelessness, poverty and a cruel cycle of violence. Christmas then, above all, is the special time when we remember our God-given duty to transform the world and our grave responsibility to become peacemakers.

The very first words of our new Holy Father Pope Leo XIV, as Pope, are worth recalling:

Peace be with all of you! Dearest brothers and sisters, this is the first greeting of the Risen Christ, the good shepherd who gave his life for God's flock. I, too, would like this greeting of peace to enter your hearts, to reach your families, and all people, wherever they are, all of the people, all over the earth...This is the peace of the Risen Christ, an unarmed peace and a disarming peace, humble and persevering. It comes from God, God who loves us all unconditionally.

Yes, our violent chaotic planet desperately needs this peace of Christ! Daily our hearts continue to break, when we see the violence especially to children, in places like Gaza, Ukraine and Myanmar.

We cannot just watch all this suffering in front of our eyes passively. We must act then as disciples of Jesus of Nazareth, in the spirit of the Beatitudes, to bring about real change. Together as the Body of Christ, we can make a difference.

My prayer, therefore, is that each of you will feel God's closeness and become instruments of peace in the New Year ahead.

With Pope Leo and St Francis of Assisi, in this holy season of goodwill and peace, we pray:

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace.

*Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv
Bishop of Parramatta*